The People's Press.

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The People's Press.

L. V. & E. T. BLUM,
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POETRY.

Nothing Good Shall Ever Perish.

Nothing good shall ever perish,
Only the corrupt shall die;
Truth, which men and angels cherish,
Flourishes eternally.

None are wholly God-forsaken:
All his sacred image wear:
None so lost but should awaken
In our hearts a brother's care.

Not a mind but has its mission—
Power of working woe and weal;
So degraded none's condition,
But the world his weight may feel.

Words of kindness, words of warning,
Deem not thou may'st speak in vain:
Even those thy counsel scorning,
Oft shall they return again.

Though the mind, absorbed in pleasure,
Hold the voice of counsel light,
Yet doth faithful memory treasure
What at first it seemed to slight.

Words of kindness we have spoken,
May, when we have passed away,
Heal, perhaps, some spirit broken,
Guide a brother led astray.

Thus our very thoughts are living,
Even when we are not here;
Joy and consolation giving
To the friends who holds us dear.

Not an act but is recorded,
Not a word but has its weight;
Every virtue is rewarded,
Outrage punished, soon or late.

Let no being then be rated
As a thing of little worth;
Every soul that is created
Has its part to play on earth.

CAPTIONS

OF ALL ACTS AND RESOLUTIONS UP TO AND INCLUDING DECEMBER 24TH, PASSED BY THE PRESENT SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Senate resolution concerning the election in the 26th Senatorial District.

Resolution declaring a vacancy in the twenty-fourth Senatorial District.

An Act to provide for a special term of the Superior Court of Davidson Co.

Resolution requesting the opinion of the Attorney General in relation to the State's interest in the Wilmington, Charlotte and Rutherford R. R. Co.

An Act to extend the time for collecting and paying over the taxes for county purposes for the county of Cleveland.

Joint Resolution of instruction to members of Congress in relation to the passage of a bill introduced at the last Session of Congress (and now pending before that body) entitled "The North Carolina Railway Extension Company."

House Resolution relative to the Representative from the County of Hertford.

An Act to abolish the office of State Printer and for other purposes.

Senate Resolution to print copies of the Treasurer's report.

An Act appointing a commission to take certain depositions relative to the Senatorial election in the counties of Granville and Person.

Resolution of instruction to Senators and Representatives in Congress relative to residue of tax on real estate.

Resolution requiring the Treasurer to furnish statistics of expenses of the late Military movement.

Resolution of inquiry concerning the seat of the Representative from Bladen county.

House resolution ordering Joint Committee on printing to have requisite number of copies of Treasurer's report printed.

Joint Resolution to raise a committee on Constitutional reform.

An Act concerning Townships in the county of Jackson.

Resolution in relation to raising a Joint Select Committee on *per diem* and mileage.

Resolution in favor of Geo. B. McCotter, Tax Collector of Pitt county.

Resolution in favor of Henry T. Grant, Sheriff of Northampton county, and J. T. Ferguson, Sheriff of Wilkes county.

Senate Resolution in regard to soldiers of the war of 1812.

An Act to amend an act entitled an act for the incorporation of the town of Washington, ratified the 18th of January 1847.

An Act for the relief of John D. Davis, Sheriff of Carteret county.

Resolution to print rules for Senate and House of Representatives.

An Act to repeal an act entitled "an act to secure the better protection of life and property," ratified the 29th day of January, 1870.

Resolution in relation to the political disabilities of Z. B. Vance.

Senate resolution concerning the election in the 26th Senatorial district.

An Act in relation to the Keeper of the Capitol.

Resolution providing for the impeachment of William W. Holden.

An Act to extend the time for collecting and paying over taxes in Alamance and Caswell.

An Act to appoint two Commissioners to take depositions in the matter of the contested election in Wayne county.

House resolution in regard to appointing Committees on impeachment.

An Act to repeal an act in relation to milcage and *per diem*, ratified the 26th day of November, A. D., 1869.

House resolution of inquiry concerning alleged improper expenditures of the public money.

An Act in relation to an election to fill the vacancy in the 29th Senatorial district.

An Act to restore to the Western Railroad Company its original chartered privileges to regulate the appointment of State directors, and to define the vote of the State in the general meetings of the Stockholders of said Company.

An Act to incorporate the People's Building and Loan Association of Salem.

An Act to relieve Thomas F. Baxter, Sheriff of Currituck, for failure to pay State taxes.

An Act to repeal chapter 52, laws of 1868-'69.

Resolution for the relief of John M. Montger, Sheriff of Moore county.

An Act to repeal certain parts of chapter 41 of an ordinance ratified March 13th 1868.

An Act concerning the city of Wilmington.

An Act for the relief of James Cashwell, tax collector of Bladen county.

An Act to amend the charter of the town of Goldsboro.

An Act to repeal certain acts in relation to the town of Fayettville, and to prescribe the qualification of voters in the municipal elections in said town.

An Act to fix the *per diem* and mileage of members and officers of the General Assembly of 1870-'71.

An Act concerning inspectors in the city of Wilmington, N. C.

An Act in relation to the special tax money in the Treasury.

An Act to provide for the removal of certain suits, actions and causes from one Judicial District to another.

An Act to extend the time for collecting and paying over the taxes for county purposes for the county of Martin.

An Act for the relief of John Horton, Sheriff of Watauga county.

An act declaratory of the meaning of the act entitled "an act to repeal certain acts passed at the session of 1868 and 1869 making appropriations to Railroad Companies, ratified 9th of March, 1870, and for other purposes.

An Act in relation to municipal elections.

An Act to define the powers and duties of the county commissioners of Iredell county concerning a certain bridge in the county.

An Act in relation to burnt records of Clay county.

An Act to authorize the County Commissioners of Randolph county to appoint a tax collector.

An Act to repeal chapter 42 of the public laws of 1869-'70, and for other purposes.

Articles exhibited by the House of Representatives of the State of North Carolina in the name of themselves and all the people of the State of North Carolina, against William W. Holden, Governor of North Carolina, in maintenance and support of their impeachment against him, for high crimes and misdemeanors in his said office.

An Act to authorize the construction of a turnpike road from Malone and Wilson's store, in McDowell county, to Flat Creek, in the county of Buncombe.

Resolution in regard to legal steps to be taken against Geo. W. Swepson and M. S. Littlefield.

An Act for the relief of the Sheriff of Chatham county.

An Act to incorporate the Hebrew Benevolent Society of the city of Charlotte, N. C.

Resolution to raise joint Committee on contingent expenses.—*Sentinel.*

No Mother.

"She has no mother." What a volume of sorrowful truth is comprised in that single utterance, no mother! We must go down the hard, rough path of life, and become inured to care and sorrow in their sternest forms before we can take home to our own experience the dreadful reality—no mother—without a struggle or a tear. But when it is said of a frail young girl, just passing from childhood toward the life of a woman, how sad is the story summed up in that short sentence. Who shall now check the wayward fancies—who shall now bear with the errors and failings of a motherless daughter? Let not the cup of sorrow be overflowed by the harshness of your bearing, or your unsympathizing coolness. Is she heedless of her doings? Is she forgetful of her duty? Is she careless of her movements? Remember, oh, remember, she has no mother.

And the poor boy, too, with none to care for him or administer to his comfort. You see him sportive with his companions, perhaps rude—may be at times wicked—he has no mother to warn and chide him—no mother to shed her softening influence over him. And when he goes to bed, strange fears creep over him, and a desolation of spirit that no tongue can express. He is turned out into the world to battle its storms alone, and when pain and weariness press upon, no words of pitying sympathy falls on his ears—no soft hand soothes and supports him. Remember, oh, remember, he has no mother.

Never get another to do for you what you can just as well do for yourself. Money thus paid for trivial services is thrown away.

PIERCING THE ALPS.

Completion of the Mount Cenis Tunnel --From France to Italy--The Engineering Triumph of the Age.

A dispatch from Susa says the Alps were pierced through on Monday, and the workmen from both ends of the Mount Cenis tunnel joined in congratulations upon the completion of the great work.—The work on the great tunnel, which had been talked of for over a quarter of a century, was actually begun in 1857, on the Italian side, at Bardonnecho. A little later operations were begun on the French side, at Fourneaux. The tunnel passes under the three peaks called Col Frejus, Mt. Grand Vallon, and the Col de la Roue, the first being on the French, the third on the Italian slope, and the second almost equi-distant between the two. Mont Cenis, from which it takes its name, is 16 or 18 miles from the French entrance and more than 20 miles from the Italian entrance, but it probably enjoys the honor of the tunnel's baptism from the fact that it is much better known than any of its summits or ranges in the neighborhood.

HOW THE WORK WAS ACCOMPLISHED.

The work on the Italian side was continued for four years, when, about 1,000 yards having been completed, the perforating machines were brought into requisition. The ordinary motive power, steam, could not be employed in operating these machines, as steam needs fire for its generation, and fire needs air for its support. After long deliberation and countless experiments, compressed air was employed. The machine is composed of seventeen or eighteen iron tubes, in which, by a vibrating motion caused by the rise and fall of water, and regulated by pistons in the tubes, the air is compressed to one-sixth its natural bulk. This, when released, exercises an expansive force equal to that of six atmospheres. As the piston ascends it forces the water up, compressing the air and driving it into a reservoir; as it descends a valve is opened near the top, through which the air rushes into the vacuum, and is in turn compressed and forced into the reservoir. From the reservoir a large iron pipe conveys the compressed air into a tunnel. Ten of these perforators were kept constantly at work. The drills working by compressed air were kept constantly boring the rock at the rate of nine feet a day. The perforators were not introduced into the tunnel at Fourneaux, on the French side, until 1863, two years after they had been in use on the Italian side.

THE ENTRANCE TO THE TUNNEL

is 25 feet wide and as many in height.—During the progress of the work, a double railway track ran into the tunnel carrying the implements and the stone for the mason work and bringing out the fragments of broken and blasted rock. A temporary wooden partition divided the tunnel into two equal galleries, above and below; the rarified air from the lower gallery rising and passing out through the upper and fresh air coming into the lower to supply its place.

For some time after the work was begun visitors were admitted at all times, but as the work progressed stricter rules were adopted, and permission was given to inspect the work only on two fixed days of the month. The visitor is taken in charge by the director of the workmen, who gives him a long India rubber coat and a lighted lamp attached to half a yard of wire, and with these they set out upon their journey

INTO THE BOWELS OF THE EARTH.

After going some distance the patch of daylight furnished by the entrance is lost sight of, and the darkness seems positively tangible. Ahead through the blackness glimmer a number of lights, and the rumbling sounds of the wagons carrying out the debris is heard. Then comes a dull, heavy rumble, echoing and re-echoing through the gallery, and seeming to shake the mountain from base to summit. It is the sound of an explosion. One follows another in rapid succession, and, after seven or eight, the wooden doors, which are closed just before the blast, are thrown open, and clouds of yellow smoke come pouring through the tunnel in such density and volume as to be positively painful. At the time of the completion of the tunnel the workmen from the Italian side had bored 4½ miles into the mountain, and those from the French side about 3 miles, the whole distance being 7 4-5 miles.

FOUR MILES FROM THE OUTER WORLD,

and with more than a mile of Alps towering above their heads, the visitors find the men and machines at work. The drills make two hundred revolutions a minute, and scatter innumerable sparks of fire from the rock. After about ninety holes, three feet in depth and two or three inches in diameter, are bored, they are charged with powder and tamped, when—the miners withdrawing behind the wooden doors—the slow match is ignited, and the explosion takes place. So the labor has continued without interruption, day and night, week after week, including Sundays, month after month, year after year. The workmen are divided into three reliefs, eight hours being given to labor and sixteen to rest. The common laborers received only three francs a day, and the skilled but five francs.

THE CASUALITIES.

Of course, in such a work innumerable accidents must happen. It has been told that more than 1,000 workmen have lost their lives up to 1870; but the guides and directors declare that not more than fifty or sixty had been killed outright, though a number of others had been seriously wounded. Most of the accidents have occurred on the railway, from the falling rock and from premature explosions. One premature explosion killed five men and wounded nine others, three of them fatally; and one rock falling crushed three men to death. It is not improbable, therefore, that during the twelve years in which the work has been going on at least 1,000 men have lost their lives.

The cost of the tunnel has been about 170,000,000 francs.—*Courier Journal, December* 31.

The Mad Stone.

Several persons recently bitten by mad dogs in Fairfax co., Va., have had recourse to the "mad stone" owned by Uriel Triplett, near Rectortown. The Alexandria *Gazette* says:

The stone is about an inch long and half an inch thick, and resembles, in appearance, a piece of coke. It has been applied in innumerable cases to wounds inflicted by snakes and mad animals, and in no instance has its healing effect been known to fail.

The application of the stone in the case of a Miss Davis is thus described:

She had been bitten on the first joint of the little finger of the right hand, in the fleshy part which the canine tooth of the dog had cut a gash, and the wound looked jagged and irritated, and the resulting inflammation and pain had extended up the arm. The scab having been removed with warm water, the stone was applied to the raw surface, to which it attached itself so firmly that it could not be shaken off for some minutes, or until it became saturated with the poison, when it was removed and placed in a tumbler of water, in which it discharged the matter it had absorbed, the virus rising to the surface and coating it with a greenish skim, interspersed with brightly-shining globules. The stone being cleansed, its application was repeated twice with the same result, but when applied the fourth time it would not adhere, and all the poison, it was said, had been extracted.

A TRAMP THROUGH THE SEWERS OF NEW YORK.—A party of gentlemen have made a night tramp through the passages of the New York sewers, entering at Fourteenth street on the North River, and leaving it by the Canal street sewer on the East River. The adventurous party barely escaped arrest while attempting to enter at other places, it being supposed by the police that they were "up to no good." A whole night was spent in the sewers, and the sensations are described as fearful. Noxious vapors, foul mud and fungus weeds were everywhere encountered.—They were once attacked by a school of rats as "large as terrier dogs," and the party used their pistols with good effect in dispersing them, but filled the sewer they were then in with sulphurous vapors that nearly suffocated them. Before they got out most of the party had fainted, while all were made sick at the stomach. A few minutes longer they declared would have rendered them insensible.

EFFECT OF COOLNESS IN ACTION.—In speaking of the necessity for coolness during action, Colonel Wolseley gives an instance of a staff officer who produced a most excellent effect on a whole column of men under fire by carrying an order quietly through a hot bombardment with a cigar between his lips. A similar story is told of a German officer on one of the battles before Metz. His men were suffering horribly, and he knew not how to steady them till he saw one private soldier smoking. The Colonel was struck by the effect produced on his own mind, and was wise enough to walk up to the man and ask if he would give him a light for his cigar. Courage is nearly as infectious as fear, and it is not only the bravery of excitement, but the calm self-possession of the strong man, that holds men firmly together at a critical moment.

A USEFUL HINT FOR COLD WEATHER.—The reason a room takes so long to be warmed after a fire has been kindled, is that the air goes up in a steady column from the mouth of the register, sides of the stove or front of the grate, to the ceiling of the room and from thence beginning to distribute itself downward, which of course is a slow process. To expedite this, take a palm leaf fan, a shawl, a large towel, or something similar, fan violently, thus compelling the upper and lower strata of air to unite—the hot upper to mix with the cold lower. In this way, the lower portion where a thermometer would indicate 40, and the upper where it would stand at 80, will be compelled to mix, and one would be surprised to witness how much sooner the apartment becomes comfortable.

VIRTUE.—Guard well your heart. Shut up every crevice by wholsome thoughts, and the evil atmosphere by which thou art surrounded will never enter. He who would tempt thee for one moment to turn aside from the path of truth, must receive no favors from thy hands. Slumber not when evil associates are pressing to thy side. To be virtuous is to be respected; to be respected is to be happy; to be happy is to be good.

Three West Point cadets, who allege that they were dragged from their quarters by the first class, conveyed to the hills and threatened with tar and feathers should they return, have been captured at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and carried back to the Academy. More work for the courts-martiallers.

The beautiful palace of Malmaison, near Versailles, where the Empress Josephine died in 1814, is said to have been destroyed by the guns of Fort Valerian.

AGRICULTURAL.

Be Just to Your Horse.

This is the advice of the American Stock Journal: We sometimes see men having the care of horses, whipping the animals because they do not understand their wishes. Many a time the leader horse or mule is unmercifully beaten for no other reason than that the driver's order is not understood. If the driver in such a case should speak gently to the leader, pat him a few minutes on the neck to reassure him of his friendship, take hold of the bridle, and lead him in the direction he wishes to go, and all this without any excitement or anger on his part, the leader will always do his best to please him.

In driving a horse to a carriage, however gentle and well-trained he may be, something may happen to alarm or frighten him; this is no fault of his—he cannot help it. All he needs is a word or two of encouragement, gently spoken to reassure him of his master's presence, and that it is all right. There should be no whipping done. The driver should recollect that he acts alarmed or frightened, too, sometimes, and would think hard of being whipped for it.

Cattle Fever.

We find two remedies in exchanges.—Salina Herald reports cures with two or three doses of the following:

Epsom Salts,..... 1 lb.
Aloes,..... 1 oz.
Sulphur,..... 4 oz.

Divide into four doses, and give one morning and night, until it operates freely as a physic. Give by drawing out the tongue and placing the dose on it—so the animal will be compelled to swallow.

A Missouri paper asserts the next to be unfailing.

For a cow, three pounds of pulverized alum, dissolved in water, given in two doses, one half an hour apart. Wait six hours and give half a pint of castor oil, and another half pint in three hours more. Take good care thereafter, until well.

For an ox, five pounds alum, and same quantity of oil administered in the same manner.

Repairing Barns.

A spare day can be profitably spent in repairing stables and barns. Much food is wasted every winter by having barns and stables so open that every chilling blast of wind reaches the animals sheltered. Young stock especially, are very sensitive to cold, and they must be sheltered or their growth will be retarded. Aside from this, a farm with snug, neat outbuildings looks better, and adds to the value of the farm. If you have no barn, fix good, warm sheds, that the stock may have some shelter. Remember that "the merciful man is merciful to his beast," and there is no animal but what will repay any kindness or attention bestowed upon it.

Coating for Brick Walls.

A good outside coating for rough walls of brick or stone is that used on government light houses, etc. It is said to be a good water-proof as well as an excellent substitute for paint for outside walls.—Take of fresh Rosendale cement three parts, and of clean, fine sand one part; mix with fresh water thoroughly. This gives a gray or granite color, dark or light, according to the color of the cement. If brick color is desired, add enough Venetian red to the mixture to produce the color. If a very light color is desired, lime may be used with the cement and sand. Care must be taken to have all the ingredients well mixed together. In applying the wash, the walls must be wet with clean fresh water, then follow immediately with the cement wash. This prevents the bricks from absorbing the water from the wash too rapidly, and gives time for the cement to set. The wash must be well stirred during the application—the admixture to be made as thick as can be applied conveniently with a white-wash brush. It is stated that this cement wash will stand for years, that it is admirably suited for brick work, fences, etc., that it is nearly water-proof, but that it cannot be used to advantage over paint or whitewash.—*Artisan.*

KAPNOPHYTE.—Dr. R. T. Weaver, of St. Johns, N. C., has, for several years past, obtained a cheap and active fertilizer by burning straw and other vegetable accumulations under a coating of earth. In a recent letter to Messrs. Whitley & Co., the Dr. says that in his opinion, there is no other known method by which a good manure can be made so rapidly and at so little cost, and that he would be glad to see this system adopted by our farmers generally. The quantity of ashes, to say nothing of the enriched layer of earth, will, he says, well repay a trial of this process.—*Roanoke News.*

On the night of the 22d ult., two men with blackened faces, went to the house of Joseph Brimm, in Patrick county, Va., some twelve miles from Mt. Airy, and demanded the proprietor's money. The latter not being forthcoming, they fired at Mrs. Brimm and her daughter, a ball striking the former in the head, stunning, but not fatally injuring her. They also knocked Mr. Brimm down, striking him a disabling blow across the spine; and, after rifling two trunks, became alarmed and fled.

A despatch from New Orleans, dated 10th inst., reports a negro riot at Brashear, Texas, in which a white boy belonging to a circus was killed, and a railroad train fired into.

GENERAL NEWS.

The steamer *Ironsides*, running between Washington city and Acquia Creek, carrying the mails and passengers for Richmond and the South, was cut through by the ice last Saturday morning, and sank. As soon as it was found she was going down, the pilot ran her upon the flats, where she lies in three feet water. The passengers were terribly frightened, but none were hurt.

A number of the most respectable and wealthy ladies of Columbus, Geo., appeared at church on New Year's day, dressed in factory ginghams and checks, made in that city. That is right. The way to build up home, is to patronize the enterprise of home.

Cassius M. Clay, the celebrated Kentucky Radical, has made a big speech at Richmond in that State, opposing Grant because of various alleged short-comings. The President's old friends seem to be rapidly falling away from him.

John Jackson, recently convicted as an accomplice with Kit Hubbard in the murder of Jos. C. Anderson, near Danville, Va., on the 4th of July last, has been sentenced to be hung at Pittsylvania C. H., on the 24th of February.

India must be a terrible place for venomous snakes. The returns of deaths in the Bengal Presidency have been compiled, and they show that in the year 1869, no less than 11,416 persons died from snake-bite.

The number of emigrants who arrived in the United States during the year 1870, was 211,289, or only 3,483 less than in 1869. The war now going on cuts off German emigration to a considerable extent.

A gentleman at Fremont, Ohio, had a surprise party at his house the other night, and when his guests went away, it took him the rest of the night to wash the tar and pick the feathers off his person.

The city of Arequipa in Peru, South America, was visited by on earthquake on the 31st ult. The buildings were shaken up and some of them damaged, but no lives were lost.

The State of New York gets about $3,000,000 a year on an average, in tolls on merchandize passing through the State by way of the Erie Canal.

Seventy-one out of the ninety-three counties in Indiana are crossed by railroads, with stations at the county seat.

Immense coal mines have been discovered near Nephi, in Utah Territory, and the discovery of silver mines continues.

The Potomac river at Washington, was frozen tight on Tuesday, 10th inst.

STATE ITEMS.

Quite a number of colored men have been arrested and jailed in Wilmington for attempting to register illegally. Most of them didn't live in the city, but had been brought in and induced to register by the white radicals, who, now that they have been caught, are leaving them to their fate.

On New Year's eve, a painful accident occurred at Lincolnton. Several young gentlemen and ladies were amusing themselves firing with pistols at a target, when a pistol in the hands of Miss Mary Phifer accidentally exploded, and inflicted a painful wound in the breast of Mr. Jno. Cobb.

On the night of the 29th, ult., a wagoner stopped at the house of Mr. Thomas J. Johnston in Mecklenburg, and said he wanted to buy some corn. Mr. J. sold him the corn, and while he had his pocket book out making change, the wagoner seized it and fled.

The tax-payers of Edgecombe are howling fearfully against the special tax of $10,000 which their radical Board of Commissioners wish to impose upon them.—But what does the Board care, for hardly a member on it pays more than a poll-tax?

The boiler of one of the engines of the gravel train on the North Carolina Railroad, exploded near the Poor House, in Guilford county, on the 4th inst. The engineer, Mr. John Lowry, was seriously, but not fatally injured.

It is said there is a man living among the mountains, in one of our South western counties, who has reached the age of 143 years. He was 20 years old at the time of Braddock's defeat.

The following are the names of the gentlemen who went upon the bail bond of Geo. W. Swepson, for $200,000, viz: R. Y. McAden, Wm. F. Askew, John Bunting and W. A. Smith.

On the night of the 4th inst., the stable of Thos. D. Johnston, at Yanceyville, was destroyed by fire, together with three horses, two mules, and a large amount of provender.

Rev. Jules DeLaunay, who has made researches for many years among the catacombs of Rome, is now lecturing in this State. He was at Greensboro last week.

A little boy in Wilmington was, on Saturday last, attacked in the street by a vicious steer, and made a narrow escape from death.

A new and fatal disease has recently made its appearance among the hogs and cattle of Robeson county.

An intoxicated colored man, named Crofford, fell from the train on the N. C. R. R., as it was starting from Charlotte on the night of the 9th inst., and had both his legs crushed. It is thought he will die.

The People's Press.

SALEM, N. C.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1871.

GEO. WALTER SITES,--EDITOR.

Convention or--Ruin.

The Legislature assembled on Monday last and went to work quietly but energetically. There is much to do which will be done speedily; there is much needed to be done which cannot be effected so long as our present Constitution stands in the way. The great want of the people—relief from oppressive taxation—will remain a want until the people themselves act in their sovereign capacity. The Legislature is powerless to afford speedy relief, unless it overrides and disregards the Constitution, as the last Legislature did. The present Legislature cannot follow that example, for its majority is composed of honest, high-minded men, who respect the oath they have taken to obey the Constitution so long as it is the law. The Legislature sorely appreciates the difficulties under which it labors, and hence members are stretching out their hands in appeal to the people; hence their anxiety to speedily perfect the Convention bill, so that the people may convoke a higher body than the General Assembly, and change the organic law so that beneficent legislation may be effected under it. Will the people respond to this appeal from their representatives? Will they not lay aside the trammels of party just for once, and strike, not only for the good of the Commonwealth, but for their own good? Will they not shut their ears to the insidious promptings of party interest, and open their eyes to the startling facts which are looming up in the immediate future? The party recently in power in this State has left us a terrible legacy—a legacy of debt and taxation which is ruinous. We have a Constitution which makes our debt "before and since the war, both honest and fraudulent portions, inviolable and not to be questioned." So long as this Constitution stands, it is almost idle to dream of obtainig relief. So long as it is the fundamental law of the State it must be obeyed by both Legislature and people, and under it, the former will be compelled to levy enormous taxes which the latter will be compelled to pay. The Legislature does not want to do this. Members well know what wide-spread misery it will cause, misery in which many of them, perhaps, will be themselves involved. They know that the people are already suffering, and they point out the only proper way in which our difficulties *can be* speedily remedied. Let our people then be wise in time, and seize the golden opportunity before it passes from their grasp. Give no ear to the office-holders who, of course, are opposed to a Convention which threatens to abolish a great many useless offices and reduce others to proper limits. Beware of the tricky politicians who, though they are bitterly opposed in their hearts to a Convention, and to everything else that promises to weaken their grasp upon the purses of the people, and will *vote* dead against it when the time comes, are just now pretending to favor it on grounds which they think will array the people against it. We have such men here in this very county of Forsyth, and we warn our friends against them once for all, for

> "For ways that are dark
> And tricks that are vain
> These men are very peculiar,"

and would be hard to beat, were it not that rascality is never successful in the long run. We ask our people to *think for themselves*, for if they will only do that, there is no doubt as to where they will be found standing when the question comes before them whether or not they will demand a Convention. The question simply is, whether we shall have a Convention to relieve us of the burdens which the present Constitution places beyond the reach of the Legislature, or shall we throw open our doors to the tax-gatherer and passively look on while the fruits of a lifetime's toil are being sacrificed. Here it all is in plain words, without any high-flown talk about legal abstractions or moral rights and wrongs. When a man finds himself in danger of drowning, he seizes the first plank that comes along, and never stops to consider whether it was manufactured and patented for a life-preserver or not.

The radical Legislature of South Carolina is furious at Governor Scott, because he declines to call out the colored militia in that State and declare martial law. The Governor thinks that whenever there are disturbances in any portion of the State, that it is best to have Federal troops sent there if troops are sent at all. This does not seem to please the colored legislators, who want to have things in their own hands, and accordingly they talk of impeaching the Governor.

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The Siege of Paris.

The intelligence from Europe is sufficiently explicit, notwithstanding the conflicting character of the despatches which are sent over the ocean cable, to convince all intelligent readers that the fall of Paris cannot be much longer delayed. In spite of the rhetorical flourishes and bombastic bulletins of the Government for the National Defence, the re-assuring proclamation of the General commanding the beleaguered capital, and the zealous patriotism of the citizens themselves, the time is rapidly approaching when the blow so long impending must fall; and if the tragedy must still continue, the curtain will rise upon new scenes and more thrilling horrors. Two weeks of almost incessant bombardment have weakened the exterior defences of the city, and, on the southern side, several of the forts have been rendered untenable; while the Prussian bombs reach almost to the heart of Paris. The besieged are battling against hope; the army of the Loire from which they expected so much has been defeated and driven back, and the enemy is reinforcing the cordon of fire and steel which has been drawn around them. There are nearly two millions of people—men, women and children—cooped up in Paris. Hunger is laying its gaunt hands upon them; their homes, in the midst of an inclement winter, are being given to the flames, and the pitiless shot and shell of the enemy are shrieking over their heads and scattering death and destruction in every direction. There is no hope for Paris, not even in the well-known valor of its defenders. There are elements within the city that will soon make themselves felt, and labor with the elements without for a speedy capitulation. The property-owners do not wish their wealth destroyed by Prussian bombs; husbands and fathers are in terror, lest the lives of their wives and little ones should be sacrificed by the shot that are flying so recklessly about; and besides, there are thousands in Paris who would gladly welcome the Prussians, or anybody else, whose coming would establish order.

It must not be too hastily accepted as a fact that the war will virtually end with the capitulation of Paris, although its occupation in 1814 and 1815 put an end to the wars of the first Empire. Then, the government possessed a head recognized by the warring powers, and with the submission of that head, the conflict ceased. Now, however, France is governed by an authority which is only acquiesced in at home, and not recognized abroad, except in a few instances, as at all legitimate. How long this government, in a vain attempt to *save itself*, will endeavor to carry on the war in the provinces remains to be seen. From the desperate character of its *personnel*—men who staked their own life chances upon the precipitation of a revolution in the midst of a great war—it is to be feared that desperate acts will yet follow, before final submission and pacification. France, if united, can yet sustain a lengthy conflict, and inflict irreparable loss upon her invaders; but she is *not* united, and that simple fact will soon tell the whole tale, even if the fall of Paris fails to do it.

The people of Randolph county, without regard to party, held a meeting at Asheboro on the 10th inst., for the purpose of consulting as to the propriety of calling a State Convention, at this juncture. After several speeches from prominent gentlemen, it was unanimously resolved that the speedy calling of a Convention was necessary to relieve the people of burdensome taxation and restore the prosperity of the State; that the Convention should be limited so as not to interfere with the rights now possessed by the colored people, or with the homestead, but in all other respects should be left untrammelled; and that the Senator and Representatives from that county be instructed to conform their action to these resolutions.

During the progress of the meeting, the Senator from Randolph, Dr. J. M. Worth, and the Representatives, Messrs. Tomlinson and Lassiter, all of whom are Conservatives, presented to the county, for the use of the poor, or for school purposes, the sum of one hundred and seventy dollars and sixty cents, being the amount of *per diem* and mileage they received from the State for their Legislative services up to the recess, over and above four dollars a day and ten cents a mile.

On our first page will be found the Captions of the Acts and Resolutions passed by the General Assembly up to the 24th of December. The Representative from Forsyth must have been absent from his seat, or else asleep in it, when all these bills and resolutions were being acted upon, else he would never have come home here with the tale that the Legislature had been doing nothing.

Both Houses of Congress have passed the joint resolution, authorizing the President to appoint three Commissioners to repair to the island of San Domingo, and inquire, among other things, the terms and conditions on which the Dominician government may desire to become annexed to the United States.

How can we Avoid the Taxes which are Threatened? Over Five Million Dollars to be Levied this Year unless the Constitution is Amended!!

The attention of our readers is called to the following article from the Wilmington *Journal*. It contains food for every man's reflection. We give it without a word of comment, for it tells a plain but startling story, and one that is apt to wake up those of our tax-paying friends, if there be any, who cannot see the necessity for a Convention.

By far the most important reasons for having a Convention at this time is to be found in the following sections of the Constitution:

"*The public debt, regularly contracted before and since the rebellion, shall be regarded as inviolable and never be questioned.*"—Sec. 6, Art. 1.

"*The General Assembly shall, by appropriate legislation and by* ADEQUATE TAXATION, *provide for the prompt and regular payment of the interest of the public debt.*"—Sec. 4, Art. 5.

Each member of the Legislature shall take an oath "to support the Constitution and to faithfully discharge his duty as a member."—Sec. 26, Art. 2.

In these sections a plain duty is enjoined on our Representatives; they are forbidden to question one cent of the State debt, and are forced by their oath of office to provide by *adequate taxation* for the prompt payment of the interest upon it.

The majority of the last Legislature, to curry popular favor, to delude the people and keep their party in power, were recreant to their oath of office. They did not provide for the payment of this interest. They did not do their sworn duty under their own Radical Constitution. We will not say that they were men of easy conscience, but only this, that for party purposes they failed to discharge a duty imperatively required by their oath. The present Legislature is composed of men of different stamp, who cannot fail to obey the terms of a Constitution they have sworn to support, and to discharge duties imperatively enjoined, even should their action work great hardship upon themselves and upon the rest of the people.

But they are *unwilling* to do this duty. They therefore earnestly appeal to the people to change the Constitution in this particular, that it may not be their sworn duty to levy oppressive and destructive taxes to pay, at this time, the interest on the public debt.

Now let us see what this interest is that must be "promptly paid by adequate taxation?"

According to the Treasurer's report, the interest due on September 30, 1870, was $3,184,596.75; the interest for the current year, in round numbers, is $1,850,000 00; interest to be paid by taxation this year, $5,034,596 76.

The people are oppressed; the State well-nigh bankrupted, and a large portion of each county in the State has been sold by Sheriffs to raise the taxes for the current year—not one cent of which can be appropriated to the payment of this interest—all of it being needed for the ordinary expenses of the government. Therefore, in addition to our present State tax, our educational tax, our county tax, our special tax and our township tax, we will have another tax—greater, more oppressive, more destructive than all of these combined—the interest tax for over $5,000,000 00!!

Can our industry stand this? Will it not prostrate us beyond human power to recuperate? Who can pay it? How many homesteads will be sold under it? How many persons now struggling manfully to provide a decent maintenance for their families will be rendered houseless and homeless if this destructive tax be levied?

How many farmers, how many artisans, how many merchants, can provide the means of paying their share of this intolerable public burden, and thus save their homestead from going under the Sheriff's hammer?

But why levy it? Why create all the evil and misery in the land that this new levy is sure to produce? Why impose a tax that must necessarily destroy the wholesome provisions of the homestead act and bankrupt our impoverished citizens? *The present Constitution imperatively requires it!* Honest men in the Legislature, having regard for their oath, must discharge the plain duty the Constitution imposes. *What, then, is to be done? How can we avoid its payment?* How can we save their homesteads to those who can not pay it? The answer is easy; the solution plain. Let a Convention *alter the Constitution so as to permit the interest on the State debt to be funded!* The Legislature appeals to the people to alter the Constitution in this particular—to relieve them of this very burden—to relieve them of the horrible responsibility of levying this onerous and destructive tax.

They ask for a Convention as the only remedy for the evil.

The New Berne *Republican* tries to make fun of one of our advertisements, and thinks "the Salem schoolmaster is abroad." We don't know whether he is or not, but should he ever get so far down as New Berne he ought to teach our cotemporary some respect for the ninth commandment, for we see it flaunts at its mast-head the stereotyped fib, "the largest circulation in the State." Such claims, when they are so obviously untenable, only serve to render ridiculous those who indulge in them.

An immense meeting was held in New York on the night of the 12th inst., for the purpose of expressing American sentiment regarding the unity of Italy, and the overthrow of the temporal power of the Papacy. Speeches were made by General Dix, Parke Godwin, Henry Ward Beecher, Horace Greeley, Wm. Cullen Bryant and others, and the following despatch was sent by the ocean telegraph to King Victor Emanuel of Italy: "More than ten thousand American citizens are celebrating, to-night, the union of Rome with Italy, and send congratulations."

Thunder from the North.

The recent interference of the government at Washington in the elections in New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware, by sending Federal troops to the cities in these States and appointing Federal inspectors at the polls, has provoked decided remonstrance from the Governors of said States, who, in their recent messages condemn the innovation as uncalled for, and a precedent that may lead to grave results. The Governors of New York and Delaware, not being in political accord with the President, were expected to speak out as they have spoken. New York expostulates with becoming pondorosity, while little Delaware flies into a rage and threatens the enactment of laws that will throw into her prisons whoever shall hereafter dare to assume supervisory or inspective functions at her polls under the plea of Federal authorization. This, we say, was to have been expected; but we were not prepared for such an emphatic rebuke to the President and his advisors as was recently given by the Republican Governor of Pennsylvania in his message to the Legislature. Gov. Geary does not mince his words upon the subject, and gives the authorities at Washington distinctly to understand that military or Federal interference in the elections of that State can not be submitted to. When we take into consideration the fact that the President acted under the "Enforcement Law" passed by Gov. Geary's own political friends for the very purpose of interfering in elections and managing them in behalf of party, the protest of the Governor possesses much significance. He evidently perceives that popular opinion in his State will not submit to such usurpations, and he bends his head before the approaching storm which they have invoked. But it is too late. The people, who were too supine so long as the mailed hand pressed only upon the States of the South, waked up as soon as they, themselves, began to feel its weight, and have begun to understand that in permitting their rulers to forge chains for the people of one section, they have damaged, if not destroyed, the bulwarks which guard their own rights and liberties. They will, in future elections, utter no uncertain sound, and Governor Geary, knowing this, has been smart enough to blow the first bugle-note, even if it does place him in direct antagonism on this point, to the views, wishes and interests of those who are trying to hold together the jarring elements of his corrupt and decaying party.

Some of the Republicans of this State are not very complimentary to Mr. Abbott, their Senator, and are throwing cold water upon his efforts to get the seat in the next Senate to which Gov. Vance has been elected. A writer, calling himself a Republican, addresses a communication to Col. Hanes, of the *Old North State*, placing himself in decided opposition to Mr. Abbott, and now comes the Republican organ at Raleigh, which says: "Mr. Abbott had far better give up politics and go to work at something else. If the Republican party had a majority in the Legislature, they would not have elected Mr. Abbott to the Senate, that is certain." We are glad to see that such a salutary change has come over the dreams of the editor of the *Gazette*. He did not always think that way, or, if he did, he took good care not to so express himself. The election last summer seems to be working miracles:

> Its blessed influence revives the good, old State all o'er,
> And scales are dropping from the eyes that couldn't see before,
> And some of the Republicans, with conscience stricken sore,
> Repent them of their naughtiness, and promise that if we will only forgive them this time, they will never do so any more.
> Chorus, &c.

Our old friend, Mr. James H. Moore, who has for nearly two years past ably and acceptably filled the assistant editor's chair of the Raleigh *Sentinel*, and struck many a stout blow for the people of North Carolina, has descended from the tripod and bidden a regretful farewell to his readers. He has been again elected to the position in the State Insane Asylum, from which he was ejected in 1868 by our radical reconstructionists, who were bent on carrying out the programme enunciated by the Governor, to the effect that none but those who were in accord with him should hold any position of trust, honor or profit under the State government. Curiously enough, he has been voted in again by the same Board of Supervisors which voted him out, and which, doubtless, repented of their action in getting rid, for unworthy reasons, of an official who had performed his duties so satisfactorily as Mr. Moore had.

The position upon the *Sentinel*, vacated by Mr. Moore, has been filled by Mr. John Spelman, who is well known to the people of the State as having been connected with its newspaper interests for a number of years, especially as having conducted the Raleigh *State Journal* during the war. Mr. Spelman is a writer who will no doubt impress his mark upon the *Sentinel*, and we congratulate that paper upon having secured his services.

There is said to be no foundation for the report that Major W. A. Smith intends to contest the recent Senatorial election in Guilford and Alamance.

STATE LEGISLATURE.

MONDAY, Jan. 16.

SENATE.—President Warren in the Chair. Twenty seven Senators answered at roll call. Mr. James A. Graham, Senator elect from Guilford and Alamance, presented his credentials and was sworn in.

Mr. Gilmer, of Guilford introduced a bill to charter the Citizens' Bank of Greensboro, which was placed on calendar.

On motion of Mr. Gilmer, the act providing for the consolidation of the N. C. R. R., and the North Western N. C. R. R., was made the special order for Wednesday.

The bill to supply the temporary difficiency in the State Treasury, by borrowing $180,000 from the N. C. Railroad Company, the amount to be deducted from the first dividend accruing from the State's interest in said road, passed its final reading.

A resolution passed second reading giving W. H. Gentry, the Sheriff of Stokes, until February 15th, to collect and pay over the county tax for 1870.

Resolutions were also passed, instructing our Congressmen to solicit the aid of the general government in creating an educational fund for the benefit of the children of the State, without regard to race or color; also, to use their influence to have the tax on spirituous liquor and tobacco reduced.

HOUSE.—Messrs. Drake of Nash, McAllister of Alamance, Paylor and Withers of Caswell, and Gunther of Washington, presented their credentials and were duly qualified as members of the House.

After a number of bills and resolutions were introduced, and appropriately disposed of, Mr. Welch of Haywood, moved that his bill to regulate bail be taken up, which was agreed to. The bill provides that upon any *capias* in the hands of any Sheriff issuing upon any indictments now pending, or which may hereafter be found in any court, wherein it is charged that any person or persons has fraudulently received or used any bonds of the State or of any corporation in which the State is interested, for their own gain, that no such Sheriff, Judge, or Justice of the Peace, shall admit the person or persons so charged to bail in a sum less than the sum which such person or persons are charged to have fraudulently received.

Mr. Welch, in explanation of the bill, said it was no party matter the people all knew they had been swindled and outraged, and wished to bring the guilty parties to speedy justice. The people were astonished that Geo. W. Swepson, who had embezzled millions of their money, when arrested should have been bailed in the sum of $200,000. This sum he could most easily pay out of the money he had appropriated, and leave the State. What protection did this give the people of the State?

The bill then passed its several readings.

Mr. Settle presented a petition from the Sheriff of Rockingham, in regard to having overpaid the State Treasurer.

Several other bills were acted upon, and the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, Jan. 17.

SENATE.—Mr. J. Livingston Brown, Senator elect from Caswell, presented himself, and was sworn in.

A bill to authorize the County Commissioners of Davidson to appoint a tax collector, passed under suspension of the rules; also a bill for the relief of the Sheriff of Alexander. Bill to punish seduction, to prevent the gift or sale of spirituous liquors to habitual drunkards or minors, and to repeal various chapters of the public laws, were referred.

Mr. Robbins of Rowan, offered a resolution which was passed, asking from the Governor an itemized account of the whole expenditure made on the account of the troops employed in the military movement last summer.

A resolution was passed providing for daily sessions of the Senate, and night sessions on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

A number of other bills were discussed after which the bill of salaries and fees was taken up, and a clause was adopted that the Attorney General be allowed $1,500 per annum, with fees and allowances for attending the Supreme Court as now prescribed by law.

HOUSE.—The bill making it a misdemeanor to fail to work on the public roads, passed second reading. By this bill, the payment of one dollar is considered equivalent to a day's work.

The bill in favor of the Sheriff of Rockingham was passed, with Senate's amendment, and ordered to be enrolled.

On motion of Mr. Johnston, of Buncombe, the bill to suppress secret societies in this State was taken up, and after a lengthy discussion, was referred to the Committee on Judiciary. The bill is very stringent in its provisions, and strikes a death-blow to all secret political organizations by whatever name they may be known. Persons joining them, assisting others to join them, or permitting their premises to be used for any such organizations shall be subject to fine, imprisonment, or both.

Many other matters were discussed, and a number of bills referred to Committees. Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 18.

SENATE.—A number of bills were introduced, among which was one concerning the deaf, dumb and blind, and one to encourage emigration.

The bill on salaries and fees of State officers passed its several readings.—Among other things it provides that the private Secretary of the Governor shall receive $500 per year; messenger for the Governor $300; Treasurer to be allowed one clerk at $1,500 and an assistant clerk at $750; Secretary of State $1,000, and his clerk $800; Auditor $1,250; Superintendent of Public Works (an utterly useless office) 50 cents; Superintendent of Public Instruction, $1,500 without an assistant or travelling expenses; Attorney General $1,500 with fees and allowances; Adjutant General $300; Reporter for Supreme Court, same pay as now allowed by the Revised Code; Solicitors of the several districts, $20 for each term of the Superior Court they shall attend. It will be seen that the bill makes a sweeping reduction in the enormous salaries decreed by the last Legislature.

Mr. Love, con., of Jackson, introduced a bill regulating the fees of county officers which was placed on calender.

HOUSE.—After the introduction and proper disposition of a number of local bills, Mr. Houston, con., of Catawba, moved to suspend the rules and take up the bill to amend section 8 of the act in relation to punishments, and after some discussion it was amended so that in all cases of assault, with or without intent to kill or injure, the person convicted shall be punished by fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the Court. Passed its several readings.

The bill abolishing the present Board of Directors of the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Asylum, and creating a Board of Trustees, passed second reading. The bill is intended to lift the Asylum to something higher than a mere party machine, as it has been for two years past, and to restore the institution to the management under which it prospered in former times.

The Governor having informed the House that in his opinion it would be unadvisable to make public the names of certain persons employed in the Detective force of this State, a resolution was passed by which the House fails to appreciate the Governor's reasons, and again asks for the names, and the amount of money paid to these spies out of the State Treasury.

The bill to allow municipal authorities to purchase and hold real estate for the purpose of a cemetery, passed third reading.

Many other bills and resolutions, of no general interest, were discussed and disposed of, and the House adjourned.

From the Raleigh *Gazette* we learn that Geo. W. Swepson was re-arrested in that city on Friday morning "upon a *capias* from Madison county, charging him and Littlefield with a conspiracy to defraud the State and the Western N. C. R. R. of State bonds, to the amount of $6,000,000; at the same time he was arrested in a civil action at the suit of the Western Division of the Western North Carolina R. R. Co."

It is hardly probable that the Madison county indictment will amount to much, for, if we understand the law in regard to conspiracy, it is necessary that the crime should have been committed in the county where the indictment is found. It will be hard to prove that any conspiracy was concocted in Madison county, and we doubt if ever Swepson and Littlefield were there together. The Buncombe indictment, which is for the same, identical crime, is a different thing altogether, as Asheville, the county-seat, was a sort of temporary head-quarters for the parties engaged in manipulating the affairs of the Western Division, and much of the alleged rascality was there carried on.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

LOCAL ITEMS.

SALE OF THE RAILROAD STOCK.—On Thursday, Friday and Saturday of last week, the remaining working stock used in the grading of the North Western N. C. Railroad, was disposed of at public auction. On the first two days there was a very large attendance, many of the bidders coming from a distance. Most of the property brought fair prices, but the mules did not sell quite so well as was hoped.—There were sixty-three mules sold, and they were the choice ones of all the stock of this kind that had been purchased by the Company. One pair brought $400, which was the highest price given. Only a few were sold by the pair, the remainder being bid off singly. Prices ranged from $200 down to $100, averaging all around about $140 apiece—perhaps a little less. The public sale was concluded on Monday, leaving a few odds and ends which the Company will dispose of, if it has not already done so, at private sale.

DROWNED.—A woman known as Puss Alberty, was drowned in Dan River, while attempting to cross at Bostick's ford, in Stokes county, on Monday last, in a wagon drawn by two mules. The river was, unfortunately, very high at the time, and the wagon-body was washed off the running gear, turning round and round as it floated down the stream. One Jackson Carroll, who was with the woman, was rescued some distance below the ford, in an exhausted condition; but all efforts failed to resuscitate the woman, who was drawn out from under the wagon-body lifeless. The two mules were also drowned.

MASONIC CELEBRATION.—The centennial anniversary of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, was appropriately celebrated here, on Saturday night last, by the Salem and Winston Lodges. Forth light processions were formed at their respective halls, and, preceded by music, they repaired to the place selected for the delivery of the address, by Rev. Mr. Albea. The brethren were present in large force, and seemed to be pretty well satisfied with their commemoration.

A DEPUTY SHERIFF ON HIS SPEED.—A race, not set down in the bills, came off in town the other day, between Deputy Sheriff John H. White and a chap named Knott, who, we believe, had been meddling with chattels that did not belong to him. The Deputy put his best leg forward, and Knott flew like a fish-hawk trying to escape from an eagle. But the Deputy's wind gave out, and Knott was not caught.

The People's Press.

SALEM, N. C.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1871.

GEO. WALTER SITES,--EDITOR.

Convention or Ruin.

The Legislature assembled on Monday last and went to work quietly but energetically. There is much to do which will be done speedily; there is much needed to be done which cannot be effected so long as our present Constitution stands in the way. The great want of the people—relief from oppressive taxation—will remain a want until the people themselves act in their sovereign capacity. The Legislature is powerless to afford speedy relief, unless it overrides and disregards the Constitution, as the last Legislature did. The present Legislature cannot follow that example, for its majority is composed of honest, high-minded men, who respect the oath they have taken to obey the Constitution so long as it is the law. The Legislature sorely appreciates the difficulties under which it labors, and hence members are stretching out their hands in appeal to the people; hence their anxiety to speedily perfect the Convention bill, so that the people may convoke a higher body than the General Assembly, and change the organic law so that beneficent legislation may be effected under it. Will the people respond to this appeal from their representatives? Will they not lay aside the trammels of party just for once, and strike, not only for the good of the Commonwealth, but for their own good? Will they not shut their ears to the insidious promptings of party interest, and open their eyes to the startling facts which are looming up in the immediate future? The party recently in power in this State has left us a terrible legacy—a legacy of debt and taxation which is ruinous. We have a Constitution which makes our debt "before and since the war, both honest and fraudulent portions, inviolable and not to be questioned." So long as this Constitution stands, it is almost idle to dream of obtainig relief. So long as it is the fundamental law of the State it must be obeyed by both Legislature and people, and under it, the former will be compelled to levy enormous taxes which the latter will be compelled to pay. The Legislature does not want to do this. Members well know what wide-spread misery it will cause, misery in which many of them, perhaps, will be themselves involved. They know that the people are already suffering, and they point out the only proper way in which our difficulties *can be* speedily remedied. Let our people then be wise in time, and seize the golden opportunity before it passes from their grasp. Give no ear to the office-holders who, of course, are opposed to a Convention which threatens to abolish a great many useless offices and reduce others to proper limits. Beware of the tricky politicians who, though they are bitterly opposed in their hearts to a Convention, and to everything else that promises to weaken their grasp upon the purses of the people, and will vote dead against it when the time comes, are just now pretending to favor it on grounds which they think will array the people against it. We have such men here in this very county of Forsyth, and we warn our friends against them once for all, for

> "For ways that are dark
> And tricks that are vain
> These men are very peculiar,"

and would be hard to beat, were it not that rascality is never successful in the long run. We ask our people to *think for themselves*, for if they will only do that, there is no doubt as to where they will be found standing when the question comes before them whether or not they will demand a Convention. The question simply is, whether we shall have a Convention to relieve us of the burdens which the present Constitution places beyond the reach of the Legislature, or shall we throw open our doors to the tax-gatherer and passively look on while the fruits of a lifetime's toil are being sacrificed. Here it all is in plain words, without any high-flown talk about legal abstractions or moral rights and wrongs. When a man finds himself in danger of drowning, he seizes the first plank that comes along, and never stops to consider whether it was manufactured and patented for a life-preserver or not.

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The Siege of Paris.

The intelligence from Europe is sufficiently explicit, notwithstanding the conflicting character of the despatches which are sent over the ocean cable, to convince all intelligent readers that the fall of Paris cannot be much longer delayed. In spite of the rhetorical flourishes and bombastic bulletins of the Government for the National Defence, the re-assuring proclamation of the General commanding the beleaguered capital, and the zealous patriotism of the citizens themselves, the time is rapidly approaching when the blow so long impending must fall; and if the tragedy must still continue, the curtain will rise upon new scenes and more thrilling horrors. Two weeks of almost incessant bombardment have weakened the exterior defences of the city, and, on the southern side, several of the forts have been rendered untenable; while the Prussian bombs reach almost to the heart of Paris. The besieged are battling against hope; the army of the Loire from which they expected so much has been defeated and driven back, and the enemy is reinforcing the cordon of fire and steel which has been drawn around them. There are nearly two millions of people—men, women and children—cooped up in Paris. Hunger is laying its gaunt hands upon them; their homes, in the midst of an inclement winter, are being given to the flames, and the pitiless shot and shell of the enemy are shrieking over their heads and scattering death and destruction in every direction. There is no hope for Paris, not even in the well-known valor of its defenders. There are elements within the city that will soon make themselves felt, and labor with the elements without for a speedy capitulation. The property-owners do not wish their wealth destroyed by Prussian bombs; husbands and fathers are in terror, lest the lives of their wives and little ones should be sacrificed by the shot that are flying so recklessly about; and besides, there are thousands in Paris who would gladly welcome the Prussians, or anybody else, whose coming would establish order.

It must not be too hastily accepted as a fact that the war will virtually end with the capitulation of Paris, although its occupation in 1814 and 1815 put an end to the wars of the first Empire. Then, the government possessed a head recognized by the warring powers, and with the submission of that head, the conflict ceased. Now, however, France is governed by an authority which is only acquiesced in at home, and not recognized abroad, except in a few instances, as at all legitimate. How long this government, in a vain attempt to *save itself*, will endeavor to carry on the war in the provinces remains to be seen. From the desperate character of its *personnel*—men who staked their own life chances upon the precipitation of a revolution in the midst of a great war—it is to be feared that desperate acts will yet follow, before final submission and pacification. France, if united, can yet sustain a lengthy conflict, and inflict irreparable loss upon her invaders; but she is *not* united, and that simple fact will soon tell the whole tale, even if the fall of Paris fails to do it.

The people of Randolph county, without regard to party, held a meeting at Asheboro on the 10th inst., for the purpose of consulting as to the propriety of calling a State Convention, at this juncture. After several speeches from prominent gentlemen, it was unanimously resolved that the speedy calling of a Convention was necessary to relieve the people of burdensome taxation and restore the prosperity of the State; that the Convention should be limited so as not to interfere with the rights now possessed by the colored people, or with the homestead, but in all other respects should be left untrammelled; and that the Senator and Representatives from that county be instructed to conform their action to these resolutions.

During the progress of the meeting, the Senator from Randolph, Dr. J. M. Worth, and the Representatives, Messrs. Tomlinson and Lassiter, all of whom are Conservatives, presented to the county, for the use of the poor, or for school purposes, the sum of one hundred and seventy dollars and sixty cents, being the amount of *per diem* and mileage they received from the State for their Legislative services up to the recess, over and above four dollars a day and ten cents a mile.

On our first page will be found the Captions of the Acts and Resolutions passed by the General Assembly up to the 24th of December. The Representative from Forsyth must have been absent from his seat, or else asleep in it, when all these bills and resolutions were being acted upon, else he would never have come home here with the tale that the Legislature had been doing nothing.

Both Houses of Congress have passed the joint resolution, authorizing the President to appoint three Commissioners to repair to the island of San Domingo, and inquire, among other things, the terms and conditions on which the Dominican government may desire to become annexed to the United States.

How can we Avoid the Taxes which are Threatened? Over Five Million Dollars to be Levied this Year unless the Constitution is Amended!!

The attention of our readers is called to the following article from the Wilmington *Journal*. It contains food for every man's reflection. We give it without a word of comment, for it tells a plain but startling story, and one that is apt to wake up those of our tax-paying friends, if there be any, who cannot see the necessity for a Convention.

By far the most important reasons for having a Convention at this time is to be found in the following sections of the Constitution:

"*The public debt, regularly contracted before and since the rebellion, shall be regarded as inviolable and never be questioned.*"—Sec. 6, Art. 1.

"*The General Assembly shall, by appropriate legislation and by* ADEQUATE TAXATION, *provide for the prompt and regular payment of the interest of the public debt.*"—Sec. 4, Art. 5.

Each member of the Legislature shall take an oath "to support the Constitution and to faithfully discharge his duty as a member."—Sec. 26, Art. 2.

In these sections a plain duty is enjoined on our Representatives; they are forbidden to question one cent of the State debt, and are forced by their oath of office to provide by *adequate taxation* for the prompt payment of the interest upon it.

The majority of the last Legislature, to curry popular favor, to delude the people and keep their party in power, were recreant to their oath of office. They did not provide for the payment of this interest. They did not do their sworn duty under their own Radical Constitution. We will not say that they were men of easy conscience, but only this, that for party purposes they failed to discharge a duty imperatively required by their oath. The present Legislature is composed of men of different stamp, who cannot fail to obey the terms of a Constitution they have sworn to support, and to discharge duties imperatively enjoined, even should their action work great hardship upon themselves and upon the rest of the people.

But they are *unwilling* to do this duty. They therefore earnestly appeal to the people to change the Constitution in this particular, that it may not be their sworn duty to levy oppressive and destructive taxes to pay, at this time, the interest on the public debt.

Now let us see what this interest is that must be "promptly paid by adequate taxation?"

According to the Treasurer's report, the interest due on September 30, 1870, was $3,184,596.75; the interest for the current year, in round numbers, is $1,850,000 00; interest to be paid by taxation this year, $5,034,596 76.

The people are oppressed; the State well-nigh bankrupted, and a large portion of each county in the State has been sold by Sheriffs to raise the taxes for the current year—not one cent of which can be appropriated to the payment of this interest—all of it being needed for the ordinary expenses of the government. Therefore, in addition to our present State tax, our educational tax, our county tax, our special tax and our township tax, we will have another tax—greater, more oppressive, more destructive than all of these combined—the interest tax for over $5,000,000 00!!

Can our industry stand this? Will it not prostrate us beyond human power to recuperate? Who can pay it? How many homesteads will be sold under it? How many persons now struggling manfully to provide a decent maintenance for their families will be rendered houseless and homeless if this destructive tax be levied?

How many farmers, how many artisans, how many merchants, can provide the means of paying their share of this intolerable public burden, and thus save their homestead from going under the Sheriff's hammer?

But why levy it? Why create all the evil and misery in the land that this new levy is sure to produce? Why impose a tax that must necessarily destroy the wholesome provisions of the homestead act and bankrupt our impoverished citizens? *The present Constitution imperatively requires it!* Honest men in the Legislature, having regard for their oath, must discharge the plain duty the Constitution imposes. *What, then, is to be done? How can we avoid its payment?* How can we save their homesteads to those who can not pay it? The answer is easy; the solution plain. Let a Convention *alter the Constitution so as to permit the interest on the State debt to be funded!* The Legislature appeals to the people to alter the Constitution in this particular—to relieve them of this very burden—to relieve them of the horrible responsibility of levying this onerous and destructive tax.

They ask for a Convention as the only remedy for the evil.

The New Berne *Republican* tries to make fun of one of our advertisements, and thinks "the Salem schoolmaster is abroad." We don't know whether he is or not, but should he ever get so far down as New Berne he ought to teach our cotemporary some respect for the ninth commandment, for we see it flaunts at its mast-head the stereotyped fib, "the largest circulation in the State." Such claims, when they are so obviously untenable, only serve to render ridiculous those who indulge in them.

An immense meeting was held in New York on the night of the 12th inst., for the purpose of expressing American sentiment regarding the unity of Italy, and the overthrow of the temporal power of the Papacy. Speeches were made by General Dix, Parke Godwin, Henry Ward Beecher, Horace Greeley, Wm. Cullen Bryant and others, and the following despatch was sent by the ocean telegraph to King Victor Emanuel of Italy: "More than ten thousand American citizens are celebrating, to-night, the union of Rome with Italy, and send congratulations."

Thunder from the North.

The recent interference of the government at Washington in the elections in New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware, by sending Federal troops to the cities in these States and appointing Federal inspectors at the polls, has provoked decided remonstrance from the Governors of said States, who, in their recent messages condemn the innovation as uncalled for, and a precedent that may lead to grave results. The Governors of New York and Delaware, not being in political accord with the President, were expected to speak out as they have spoken. New York expostulates with becoming ponderosity, while little Delaware flies into a rage and threatens the enactment of laws that will throw into her prisons whoever shall hereafter dare to assume supervisory or inspective functions at her polls under the plea of Federal authorization. This, we say, was to have been expected; but we were not prepared for such an emphatic rebuke to the President and his advisors as was recently given by the Republican Governor of Pennsylvania in his message to the Legislature. Gov. Geary does not mince his words upon the subject, and gives the authorities at Washington distinctly to understand that military or Federal interference in the elections of that State can not be submitted to. When we take into consideration the fact that the President acted under the "Enforcement Law" passed by Gov. Geary's own political friends for the very purpose of interfering in elections and managing them in behalf of party, the protest of the Governor possesses much significance. He evidently perceives that popular opinion in his State will not submit to such usurpations, and he bends his head before the approaching storm which they have invoked. But it is too late. The people, who were too supine so long as the mailed hand pressed only upon the States of the South, waked up as soon as they, themselves, began to feel its weight, and have begun to understand that in permitting their rulers to forge chains for the people of one section, they have damaged, if not destroyed, the bulwarks which guard their own rights and liberties. They will, in future elections, utter no uncertain sound, and Governor Geary, knowing this, has been smart enough to blow the first bugle-note, even if it does place him in direct antagonism on this point, to the views, wishes and interests of those who are trying to hold together the jarring elements of his corrupt and decaying party.

Some of the Republicans of this State are not very complimentary to Mr. Abbott, their Senator, and are throwing cold water upon his efforts to get the seat in the next Senate to which Gov. Vance has been elected. A writer, calling himself a Republican, addresses a communication to Col. Hanes, of the *Old North State*, placing himself in decided opposition to Mr. Abbott, and now comes the Republican organ at Raleigh, which says: "Mr. Abbott had far better give up politics and go to work at something else. If the Republican party had a majority in the Legislature, they would not have elected Mr. Abbott to the Senate, that is certain." We are glad to see that such a salutary change has come over the dreams of the editor of the *Gazette*. He did not always think that way, or, if he did, he took good care not to so express himself. The election last summer seems to be working miracles:

> Its blessed influence revives the good, old State all o'er,
> And scales are dropping from the eyes that couldn't see before,
> And some of the Republicans, with conscience stricken sore,
> Repent them of their naughtiness, and promise that if we will only forgive them this time, they will never do so any more.
> Chorus, &c.

Our old friend, Mr. James H. Moore, who has for nearly two years past ably and acceptably filled the assistant editor's chair of the Raleigh *Sentinel*, and struck many a stout blow for the people of North Carolina, has descended from the tripod and bidden a regretful farewell to his readers. He has been again elected to the position in the State Insane Asylum, from which he was ejected in 1868 by our radical reconstructionists, who were bent on carrying out the programme enunciated by the Governor, to the effect that none but those who were in accord with him should hold any position of trust, honor or profit under the State government. Curiously enough, he has been voted in again by the same Board of Supervisors which voted him out, and which, doubtless, repented of their action in getting rid, for unworthy reasons, of an official who had performed his duties so satisfactorily as Mr. Moore had.

The position upon the *Sentinel*, vacated by Mr. Moore, has been filled by Mr. John Spelman, who is well known to the people of the State as having been connected with its newspaper interests for a number of years, especially as having conducted the Raleigh *State Journal* during the war. Mr. Spelman is a writer who will no doubt impress his mark upon the *Sentinel*, and we congratulate that paper upon having secured his services.

There is said to be no foundation for the report that Major W. A. Smith intends to contest the recent Senatorial election in Guilford and Alamance.

STATE LEGISLATURE.

MONDAY, Jan. 16.

SENATE.—President Warren in the Chair. Twenty-seven Senators answered at roll call. Mr. James A. Graham, Senator elect from Guilford and Alamance, presented his credentials and was sworn in.

Mr. Gilmer, of Guilford introduced a bill to charter the Citizens' Bank of Greensboro, which was placed on calendar.

On motion of Mr. Gilmer, the act providing for the consolidation of the N. C. R. R., and the North Western N. C. R. R. was made the special order for Wednesday.

The bill to supply the temporary deficiency in the State Treasury, by borrowing $180,000 from the N. C. Railroad Company, the amount to be deducted from the first dividend accruing from the State's interest in said road, passed its final reading.

A resolution passed second reading giving W. H. Gentry, the Sheriff of Stokes, until February 15th, to collect and pay over the county tax for 1870.

Resolutions were also passed, instructing our Congressmen to solicit the aid of the general government in creating an educational fund for the benefit of the children of the State, without regard to race or color; also, to use their influence to have the tax on spirituous liquor and tobacco reduced.

HOUSE.—Messrs. Drake of Nash, McAllister of Alamance, Pavlor and Withers of Caswell, and Gunther of Washington, presented their credentials and were duly qualified as members of the House.

After a number of bills and resolutions were introduced, and appropriately disposed of, Mr. Welch of Haywood, moved that his bill to regulate bail be taken up, which was agreed to. The bill provides that upon any *capias* in the hands of any Sheriff issuing upon any indictments now pending, or which may hereafter be found in any court, wherein it is charged that any person or persons has fraudulently received or used any bonds of the State or of any corporation in which the State is interested, for their own gain, that no such Sheriff, Judge, or Justice of the Peace, shall admit the person or persons so charged to bail in a sum less than the sum which such person or persons are charged to have fraudulently received.

Mr. Welch, in explanation of the bill, said it was no party matter the people all knew they had been swindled and outraged, and wished to bring the guilty parties to speedy justice. The people were astonished that Geo. W. Swepson, who had embezzled millions of their money, when arrested should have been bailed in the sum of $200,000. This sum he could most easily pay out of the money he had appropriated, and leave the State. What protection did this give the people of the State?

The bill then passed its several readings.

Mr. Settle presented a petition from the Sheriff of Rockingham, in regard to having overpaid the State Treasurer.

Several other bills were acted upon, and the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, Jan. 17.

SENATE.—Mr. J. Livingston Brown, Senator elect from Caswell, presented himself, and was sworn in.

A bill to authorize the County Commissioners of Davidson to appoint a tax collector, passed under suspension of the rules; also a bill for the relief of the Sheriff of Alexander. Bill to punish seduction, to prevent the gift or sale of spirituous liquors to habitual drunkards or minors, and to repeal various chapters of the public laws, were referred.

Mr. Robbins of Rowan, offered a resolution which was passed, asking from the Governor an itemized account of the whole expenditure made on the account of the troops employed in the military movement last summer.

A resolution was passed providing for daily sessions of the Senate, and night sessions on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

A number of other bills were discussed after which the bill of salaries and fees was taken up, and a clause was adopted that the Attorney General be allowed $1,500 per annum, with fees and allowances for attending the Supreme Court as now prescribed by law.

HOUSE.—The bill making it a misdemeanor to fail to work on the public roads, passed second reading. By this bill, the payment of one dollar is considered equivalent to a day's work.

The bill in favor of the Sheriff of Rockingham was passed, with Senate's amendment, and ordered to be enrolled.

On motion of Mr. Johnston, of Buncombe, the bill to suppress secret societies in this State was taken up, and after a lengthy discussion, was referred to the Committee on Judiciary. The bill is very stringent in its provisions, and strikes a death-blow to all secret political organizations by whatever name they may be known. Persons joining them, assisting others to join them, or permitting their premises to be used for any such organizations shall be subject to fine, imprisonment, or both.

Many other matters were discussed, and a number of bills referred to Committees. Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 18.

SENATE.—A number of bills were introduced, among which was one concerning the deaf, dumb and blind, and one to encourage emigration.

The bill on salaries and fees of State officers passed its several readings. Among other things it provides that the private Secretary of the Governor shall receive $500 per year; messenger for the Governor $300; Treasurer to be allowed one clerk at $1,500 and an assistant clerk at $750; Secretary of State $1,000, and his clerk $800; Auditor $1,250; Superintendent of Public Works (an utterly useless office) 50 cents; Superintendent of Public Instruction, $1,500 without an assistant or travelling expenses; Attorney General $1,500 with fees and allowances; Adjutant General $300; Reporter for Supreme Court, same pay as now allowed by the Revised Code; Solicitors of the several districts, $20 for each term of the Superior Court they shall attend. It will be seen that the bill makes a sweeping reduction in the enormous salaries decreed by the last Legislature.

Mr. Love, con., of Jackson, introduced a bill regulating the fees of county officers which was placed on calendar.

HOUSE.—After the introduction and proper disposition of a number of local bills, Mr. Houston, con., of Catawba, moved to suspend the rules and take up the bill to amend section 8 of the act in relation to punishments, and after some discussion it was amended so that in all cases of assault, with or without intent to kill or injure, the person convicted shall be punished by fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the Court. Passed its several readings.

The bill abolishing the present Board of Directors of the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Asylum, and creating a Board of Trustees, passed second reading. The bill is intended to lift the Asylum to something higher than a mere party machine, as it has been for two years past, and to restore the institution to the management under which it prospered in former times.

The Governor, having informed the House that in his opinion it would be unadvisable to make public the names of certain persons employed in the Detective force of this State, a resolution was passed by which the House fails to appreciate the Governor's reasons, and again asks for the names, and the amount of money paid to these spies out of the State Treasury.

The bill to allow municipal authorities to purchase and hold real estate for the purpose of a cemetery, passed third reading.

Many other bills and resolutions, of no general interest, were discussed and disposed of, and the House adjourned.

From the Raleigh *Gazette* we learn that Geo. W. Swepson was re-arrested in that city on Friday morning "upon a *capias* from Madison county, charging him and Littlefield with a conspiracy to defraud the State and the Western N. C. R. R. of State bonds, to the amount of $6,000,000; at the same time he was arrested in a civil action at the suit of the Western Division of the Western North Carolina R. R. Co."

It is hardly probable that the Madison county indictment will amount to much, for, if we understand the law in regard to conspiracy, it is necessary that the crime should have been committed in the county where the indictment is found. It will be hard to prove that any conspiracy was concocted in Madison county, and we doubt if ever Swepson and Littlefield were there together. The Buncombe indictment, which is for the same, identical crime, is a different thing altogether, as Asheville, the county-seat, was a sort of temporary head-quarters for the parties engaged in manipulating the affairs of the Western Division, and much of the alleged rascality was there carried on.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

LOCAL ITEMS.

SALE OF THE RAILROAD STOCK.—On Thursday, Friday and Saturday of last week, the remaining working stock used in the grading of the North Western N. C. Railroad, was disposed of at public auction. On the first two days there was a very large attendance, many of the bidders coming from a distance. Most of the property brought fair prices, but the mules did not sell quite so well as was hoped.—There were sixty-three mules sold, and they were the choice ones of all the stock of this kind that had been purchased by the Company. One pair brought $400, which was the highest price given. Only a few were sold by the pair, the remainder being bid off singly. Prices ranged from $200 down to $100, averaging all around about $140 apiece—perhaps a little less. The public sale was concluded on Monday, leaving a few odds and ends which the Company will dispose of, if it has not already done so, at private sale.

DROWNED.—A woman known as Puss Alberty, was drowned in Dan River, while attempting to cross at Bostick's ford, in Stokes county, on Monday last, in a wagon drawn by two mules. The river was, unfortunately, very high at the time, and the wagon-body was washed off the running gear, turning round and round as it floated down the stream. One Jackson Carroll, who was with the woman, was rescued some distance below the ford, in an exhausted condition; but all efforts failed to resuscitate the woman, who was drawn out from under the wagon-body lifeless. The two mules were also drowned.

MASONIC CELEBRATION.—The centennial anniversary of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, was appropriately celebrated here, on Saturday night last, by the Salem and Winston Lodges. Forth Light processions were formed at their respective halls, and, preceded by music, they repaired to the place selected for the delivery of the address, by Rev. Mr. Albea. The brethren were present in large force, and seemed to be pretty well satisfied with their commemoration.

A DEPUTY SHERIFF AT HIS SPEED.—A race, not six doors to the mile, came off in town the other day, between Deputy Sheriff John H. White and a chap named Knott, who, we believe, had been meddling with chattels that did not belong to him. The Deputy put his best leg forward, and Knott flew like a fish-hawk trying to escape from an eagle. But the Deputy's wind gave out, and Knott was not caught.

THE EVE OF ST. AGNES.—This evening, January 20th, is a time which has been celebrated for centuries throughout the Christian world by the poets whose fondness for beautiful superstitions is proverbial, and been very dear to maidens who desire to be favored with dreams of their future husbands. In England it was called the Fast of St. Agnes, not because it was generally observed as such, but only by those who wished to test the efficacy of the charm that was necessary to cause the desired dreams. This charm varied, but the rite usually adopted, and which possessed the sanction of venerable custom, was to take a row of pins, pull them out one after another, slowly saying the Lord's Prayer in the meanwhile, and sticking in the sleeve the pin extracted at the commencement of the words "Deliver us from evil." It was requisite that the maiden should be alone while weaving her charm, that she should make no mistake in saying the prayer, and that she should be careful to pull from the paper only one pin at a time. The slightest mistake ruined the charm. With the exception of the one stuck in the sleeve, the pins drawn from the paper were of no further use to the charm, and could be returned again, or stuck in a pincushion as the maiden chose. No food could then be eaten, but the maiden was required to seek her bed fasting, and then her dreams were expected to be pleasant and to present the shadowy image of the future spouse. In the very beautiful and justly celebrated poem of Keats, entitled "The Eve of St. Agnes," the custom is thus alluded to:

"They told her how, upon St. Agnes' Eve,
Young virgins might have visions of delight,
And soft adornings from their loves receive
Upon the honied middle of the night,
If ceremonies due they did aright;
As supperless to bed they must retire,
Nor look behind nor sideways, but require
Of heaven, with upward eyes, for all that they desire."

MELANCHOLY SUICIDE OF JOHN H. HESTER.—Our quiet community was startled on Monday last by the intelligence that John H. Hester, Esq., a well-known citizen and one of the leading merchants at Kernersville had committed suicide by cutting his throat, and that his body had been found lying near a branch, in a piece of inclosed thicket on the grounds of Mrs. Elizabeth Shields, about one mile from Kernersville. The Coroner, Augustus Fogle, Esq., was at once summoned, and he repaired to the spot, from which the friends of the deceased had not removed the body. Having impanneled a jury, and examined a number of witnesses, he elicited the information that Mr. Hester had left his home about 11 o'clock in the morning, telling his family that he was going to look after some hands whom he had at work cutting wood. As he did not return, his family became alarmed and search was made for him which resulted in his lifeless remains being discovered as above described. He had cut his throat clear across, making several deep gashes, with the large blade of a common pocket knife. He had evidently made his way through the bushes, some ten or twelve yards from the place where he committed the act, as the ground was much trampled, the bushes broken, and everything in his pathway flecked and smeared with his gore. The knife, which belonged to his young son, was found upon the ground some feet from the body, and covered with blood. Between his knees, was found a long pencil, with the point broken off, and at his feet, his white pocket handkerchief, completely saturated with blood. In his pocket several loose papers were found, written in pencil. The characters were difficult to decipher, and look as if he had written without a rest.

After eliciting all the testimony that could be obtained, the jury rendered a verdict that the deceased had "come to his death by the use of a pocket knife in his own hands."

On Tuesday, a razor was found in the bushes, in the vicinity where the body was discovered, the blade of which had been washed clean, while the handle was smeared with blood. The Coroner, when the inquest was held, thought that the wounds had been inflicted, at least, in part, with a larger weapon than a small knife.

From all we can learn, we think it evident that Mr. Hester, who was a warm-hearted, hospitable, social, but highly sensitive man, committed the sad act while laboring under temporary aberration of mind, superinduced by business cares and embarrassments. Indeed the few pencil lines, found upon his person, and which were doubtless written just before he slew himself, are a sufficient evidence that he was not in his sane mind. His endeavors to overcome his embarrassments caused too severe a strain upon his mental organization, and he succumbed in the struggle. However it may be, he is now gone, and let none upbraid him. He was a good citizen, and his loss will be severely felt in the community in which he lived.—He leaves a wife and several children who have been plunged into the deepest affliction by the sudden calamity which has overtaken them.

The *Patriot* is informed that some gentlemen of large means have selected the Caldwell Institute in that county (Guilford) with the view of manufacturing tobacco on a large scale.

THAT SHOOTING SCRAPE.—We regret that in our relation of the shooting affair at Kernersville, last week, we, ourself, did not exactly hit the mark. The facts are as follows: The Deputy Sheriff, Mr. Jos. Kerner, assisted by Mr. Matthews, attempted to arrest Stafford on a *capias*, not a peace warrant. Stafford, backed by three others, resisted the officer, and in so doing, used his pistol to the detriment of Mr. Matthew's personal wardrobe. He then attempted to escape by flight, but was overtaken and arrested while running, and was subsequently bound over for his appearance at Court, giving good security.

RESULTS OF A QUARREL.—On Sunday last, Hamilton Robeson, of Kernersville Township, was arrested by Deputy Sheriff Kernot, and brought before T. T. Best, Esq., on the charge of assaulting and cutting Joseph Hough with a pocket knife, on the day before New Year. The case was postponed at the request of the prisoner's counsel, until Wednesday, when it came up for examination. There were quite a number of witnesses. From the evidence it appeared that the two men had gotten into a quarrel about some trivial matter, which finally resulted in Robeson producing a knife and inflicting several cuts upon his antagonist. Hough exhibited to the Court some five or six wounds on his head, face and body, and also the clothing he had worn at the time, which were smeared all over with blood, and very much cut up. After a patient hearing of the evidence, the magistrate decided, that there having been two fights, Robeson was guilty of having provoked the first, and Hough of having commenced the second. Accordingly both were bound over to appear at the next term of the Superior Court.

PAID HIS FINE.—Mayor Fogle clapped a contumacious culprit in the calaboose the other day, for some misdemeanor, and told him he would have to keep him there ten days if he didn't scare up a contribution of ten dollars for the use and behoof of the corporation. The speedy way that ten dollars was collected was a caution, but the Mayor, out of the kindness of his heart, had to lend two dollars of it. How about that investment, Squire?

TOBACCO ORDERS.—The Danville *Register* says there will probably be more tobacco buyers in that market the coming spring and summer, than there were last year, and as usual, there will be heavy orders to fill this season for distant buyers. A large firm at Danville says that numerous orders will have to be filled for other points, some of which have already been received, and are awaiting an opportunity to be filled. One order is from Canada, and another from London. The home demand, too, will be larger than heretofore. If this is all so, we hope our farmers will be enabled to get good prices for their stock on hand, for they need it badly enough.

STATE ITEMS.

A terrible fire broke out in Newbern on the night of the 10th inst., destroying the Episcopal Church, and several mercantile establishments. Losses about $60,000 of which some $18,000, only, were insured.

After a recent radical victory in Wilmington, a disorderly mob marched through the principal streets of the city, huzzaing, and gathering in front of the residences of prominent Conservatives with curses and yells, terrifying the women and children beyond measure.

Sinclair Locklear, a mulatto, supposed to be connected with the Robeson county gang of outlaws, has been arrested, and put in jail at Fayetteville.

The report that Gov. Holden is about to become associate editor of a religious paper, is pronounced to be untrue.

Noah Hancock, Harvard Hancock and Noah Parks, all of Randolph county, have been committed to jail in Greensboro, by the United States Commissioner, in default of bail, on the charge of distilling without license.

Notwithstanding the new law changing the time for holding municipal elections, the radicals of Rutherfordton determined to hold an election in that corporation last Monday week, and accordingly did so. They had it all to themselves, as none of the Conservatives would vote.

The revenue officers have seized the still and fixtures of J. W. Britain, in Buncombe county for alleged violation of the revenue laws.

A fatal affray took place week before last in Jackson county, between Richard Burnes and a man named Rose, in which the former shot the latter through the chest, while the latter ripped open his antagonist's abdomen with a bowie-knife, killing him instantly. Rose's wound is also considered mortal. The affray resulted from an old feud.

The Governor has appointed Judge Logan to preside at the Special Term of Buncombe Superior Court, which commenced on the 16th inst. The case of Geo. W. Swepson comes before this Court.

Mr. James H. Moore, assistant editor of the Raleigh *Sentinel*, has received the appointment of Steward of the Insane Asylum, a position he once held under Dr. Fisher.

The centennial anniversary of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina was celebrated in Raleigh last Saturday, by the Masons with much ceremony.

The Supreme Court has set apart Tuesday, the 26th inst., for hearing the several cases, from different judicial districts, involving the term of office of the Sheriffs. The arguments of the different counsel on either side will be equally able and interesting.

THE WAR IN EUROPE.

Capitulation of Peronne—Battle of Villarsexel—The Bombardment of Paris—Battles of Lombrun—Defeat of the French at Le Mans.

JAN. 11.—From Prussian sources we learn that the fortified town of Peronne, in northern France, has capitulated with 3,000 prisoners; also, that the Prussian general, Werder, defeated the French under Bourbaki, on the 9th inst., south of Vesoul, taking 800 prisoners.

Later despatches indicate that a sanguinary battle was fought on the 9th inst. at Villarsexel, both armies claiming the victory. The French claim that they carried the position of the enemy, and after the close of the conflict encamped on the field. The Prussians deny this, and say that the French lost 600 men and 16 officers, and that they are retreating.—They say nothing of their own loss, but it was undoubtedly severe.

The bombardment of the forts around Paris continues, but is embarrassed by a dense fog and heavy snow storm.

JAN. 12.—Despatches dated yesterday say that the results of ten days' bombardment is unsatisfactory. Mont Avron was swept by the French fire and the Prussians forced to evacuate it. The Prussian batteries at Chamart throw shells as far as the Hotel des Invalides and Champs de Mars. Paris advices to the 8th, say that shells are falling in Montmartre, and that persons have been killed in the church of St. Sulpice. Despatches to the evening of the 9th say that thousands of balls fell during the night in the suburbs of the city, creating havoc in all directions, killing some women and children, striking schoolhouses, ambulances, &c. The populace of Paris have become enraged, and more resolute than ever to resist to the utmost.—Gen. Trochu has issued a proclamation to the citizens declaring that he will not capitulate.

A despatch from Versailles says a large fire is raging within the walls of Paris, on the north side of the city.

Official announcement is made that the Prussians on the 10th redoubled their efforts against Gen. Chanzy, who retired to his original position. The battle was hotly disputed, one French brigade resisting the incessant assaults of the enemy for six hours. The losses were considerable on both sides.

The Grand Duke of Mecklenburg telegraphs to-night, that after crossing the river Huisne on Tuesday, he fought on next day a hot but victorious battle at Lombrun and La Chapelle, taking nearly 10,000 prisoners. Other accounts speak of the French loss being very serious, while that of the Prussians is estimated at 18,000 killed and wounded.

JAN. 13.—Gen. Chanzy has been completely defeated at Le Mans by the second German army under Prince Frederick Charles. The Germans have occupied Le Mans, capturing a large quantity of supplies and war material. The French are being pursued.

Berlin advices state that reinforcements are on their way to join the German army in France, and those in readiness to go number 200,000 men, which will raise the German force to 1,000,000 men.

The bombardment of Paris seems to be becoming more effective. The destruction of buildings in the neighborhood of the Luxemburg palace is everywhere visible. The southwestern suburbs are in ruins. The damage to the buildings in the neighborhood of St. Jacques is very great, and it is believed that neither life or property is safe in that vicinity.

JAN. 14.—A dispatch from Vienna, dated 12th inst., says that Austria will initiate peace if her propositions will be listened to. The preliminaries are, that France shall surrender one fort, twenty war ships, a strip of land four miles wide on the left bank of the Rhine, destroy all the forts within twenty miles of that river, and pay to Prussia one thousand millions of thalers.

The British Government is making extraordinary efforts to place the entire British navy in a sea-worthy condition.—Vessels repairing and approaching completion are hurried by orders from the Admiralty.

A fight has occurred at Bournville, near Havre, in which the French were forced to retire.

JAN. 15.—The bombardment continues. Fort d'Issy has been virtually destroyed. Fort de Montrouge is completely breached, and the barracks burned down. The French have been busy in bringing troops across the railway from the river. The Loft Bridge, near Bas Menton, while crowded with men, was struck by shells and broken down, precipitating the soldiers from an immense height and crushing them to death. The bombardment has been mainly directed against Fort de Montrouge. It was unceasing for twelve hours. General Moltke narrowly escaped being killed by a shell which burst close to his carriage.

Prussian dispatches state that the French army of the Loire is broken up, disorganized and retreating in three different directions. 20,000 prisoners have been taken. The battle was a crushing defeat for the French.

Vigorous sorties were made from Paris on the night of the 13th, in three directions. The fighting was spirited, but in every instance the French were driven back to their works.

JAN. 16.—Late dispatches affirm that Gen. Chauzy has rallied his disordered troops, and is retreating in good order towards Alencon and Laval. He is about ready to resume operations.

Constant skirmishing is going on near Havre, the Prussians endeavoring to turn the left wing of Gen. Faidherbe's army and menace Cambrai.

Official advices from Paris say that the bombardment continued incessantly during the night, a shell falling every minute in the vicinity of St. Sulpice. The forts on the south are returning the fire with great vigor. Fort Nogent, and the village of Fontenay in the bend of the river Marne, sustained the bombardment without serious damage.

The government at Paris has published to the civilized world a protest against the bombardment of that city. It is in effect as follows: The bombardment is proceeding wantonly upon hospitals, ambulances and churches, and is killing many innocent women and children. All authorities on war and military usage require that warning to remove all non-combatants shall precede the opening of such an attack upon a city. The bombardment is not preliminary to military action, but is an act coldly calculated to devastate the city and strike terror to the citizens by murder and incendiarism.

The Prussians have commenced to bombard Longwy, on the north-eastern frontier, and the women and children are flying into Belgium. There was a heavy fight on the 12th, near Longwy, in which both artillery and infantry were engaged. It was not decisive.

JAN. 17.—The Prussians again attacked Gen. Chanzy on Sunday, but were resisted successfully, except in the centre.—Chanzy had reached a new position, and 50,000 troops had left Cherbourg to re-inforce him.

The French, under Bourbaki, attacked the Prussians, near Belfort, on the 15th, and succeeded in occupying Mont Belmir. The battle lasted nine hours, and the Prussians claim that they repulsed the enemy, losing themselves about 200 men.

King William telegraphs to his Queen, "The number of prisoners captured in and since the battle of Le Mans has increased to fully 20,000. Four locomotives and 400 wagons are among the spoils."

GENERAL NEWS.

Great excitement was created in Brooklyn, New York, on the 12th inst., by a raid of the United States revenue officers upon the illicit distillers in that city. The officers were supported by a force of 1,500 Federal troops, who marched to the suspected localities with loaded arms and fixed bayonets. Seventeen distilleries were seized, and the stills demolished. 180,000 gallons of mash were pumped into the streets, and the whole value of the property destroyed was about $150,000. The mob gathered in strong force during the proceedings, and refused to fall back when ordered to do so. The troops then charged with the bayonet driving the crowd back, but only one man is reported seriously injured. The feeling against the government is intense in Brooklyn, and the authorities refused to allow the public dydrants to be opened to furnish water for the steam engines which the revenue officials had taken along to put out the fires under the stills. The city police made no attempt to assist the government officials, but seemed to sympathise with the mob.

Dispatches from Washington territory report that the entire country between Monticello and Olympia is flooded, the streams having overflowed, carrying away the bridges, and whole sections of railroad. Travel was suspended, and the rain continuing, the rivers were still rising.

Four mills of the Hazard Gunpowder Company, at Hazardville, Conn., exploded in rapid succession early on the morning of the 11th inst. There was much destruction of property, but no lives were lost.

AYER'S AMERICAN ALMANAC for the new year, has arrived for delivery gratis by dealers in medicine, to all who call for it. This little annual has the largest circulation of any book in the world, made by the fact that it furnishes the best medical advice which is available to the people—enables them to determine what their complaints are and how to cure them.—It contains the startling announcement of the *conflagration of a world*, or the combustion of one of the stars in the firmament with all its attendant planets.

PEOPLE have been so humbugged with dirty, poisonous hair preparations, that they hail with delight the new article styled NATURE'S HAIR RESTORATIVE, Clear as crystal, and it does the work most effectually. See advertisement.

MARRIED,

In Bethania, on the 12th inst., by Rev. Lewis Rights, MR. WILLIAM CARTER, of Forsyth to Miss SUSAN SARAH GRABS, of Bethania, N. C.

DIED,

Near Olney, Ill., on Dec. 27th, through the accidental discharge of a gun in his own hands, PARMENIUS SYLVESTER FISHEL, son of Wm. and Regina Fishel, in the 18th year of his age. He was a youth of unblemished character.

VALENTINES!

A Splendid lot of VALENTINES at the BOOK-STORE.

NOTICE.

B. F. JONES, against J. A. KIMBROUGH. } Attachment.

The defendant above named, will please take notice that a warrant of attachment was this day issued against him for the sum of thirty-one dollars and ninety cents, ($31 90) due by book account, and returnable before J. W. Goslen, Esq., a Justice of the Peace for the County of Yadkin, at his office in West Bend, the 11th day of February, 1871, when and where the defendant is required to appear and answer the complaint.

Dated this, 7th day of January, A. D., 1871.

B. F. JONES, Plaintiff.

Jan. 20, 1871.-3-4t (pd)

CANCERS, TUMORS, ULCERS.

R. H. Khae, M. D., at the Philadelphia Cancer Institute, 391 Arch Street Philadelphia Pa., and E. H. Green, M. D., Charlotte, N. C., are making the most remarkable cures of

Cancers, Tumors, Ulcers

by new principles—*Cancer Antidotes*—that removes the largest Cancers and Tumors without an operation with the knife, without caustic eating or burning medicines, and with but little pain.

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For particulars send for a circular, call upon or address either of the above.

39-3m.

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Scrofulous poison is one of the most destructive enemies of our race. Often, this unseen and unsuspected tenant of the organism undermines the constitution, and invites the attack of enfeebling or fatal diseases, without exciting a suspicion of its presence. Again, it seems to breed infection throughout the body, and then, on some favorable occasion, rapidly develop into one or other of its hideous forms on the surface or among the vitals. In the latter, tubercles may be suddenly deposited in the lungs or heart, or tumors formed in the liver, or it shows its presence by eruptions on the skin, or foul ulcerations on some part of the body. Hence the occasional use of a bottle of this *Sarsaparilla* is advisable, even when no active symptoms of disease appear. Persons afflicted with the following complaints generally find immediate relief, and, at length, cure, by the use of this *SARSAPARILLA: St. Anthony's Fire, Rose or Erysipelas, Tetter, Salt Rheum, Scald Head, Ringworm, Sore Eyes, Sore Ears*, and other eruptions or visible forms of *Scrofulous* disease. Also in the more concealed forms, as *Dyspepsia, Dropsy, Heart Disease, Fits, Epilepsy, Neuralgia*, and the various *Ulcerous* affections of the mucous and nervous systems.

Syphilis or Venereal and *Mercurial Diseases* are cured by it, though a long time is required for subduing these obstinate maladies by any medicine. But long-continued use of this medicine will cure the complaint. *Leucorrhœa or Whites, Uterine Ulcerations*, and *Female Diseases*, are commonly soon relieved and ultimately cured by its purifying and invigorating effect. Minute directions for each case are found in our Almanac, supplied gratis. *Rheumatism* and *Gout*, when caused by accumulations of extraneous matters in the blood, yield quickly to it, as also *Liver Complaints, Torpidity, Congestion* or *Inflammation* of the *Liver*, and *Jaundice*, when arising, as they often do, from the rankling poisons in the blood. This *SARSAPARILLA* is a great restorer for the strength and vigor of the system. Those who are languid and *Listless, Despondent, Sleepless*, and troubled with *Nervous Apprehensions* or *Fears*, or any of the affections symptomatic of *Weakness*, will find immediate relief and convincing evidence of its restorative power upon trial.

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Salem, N. C., Nov. 11, 1870. 41-tf.

1871. THE WORLD. 1871.

The year 1871 bids fair to be one of the most important and fruitful in our political history. In it will be shaped the great issues on which the Presidential election of 1872 must turn. It will be an era of new political energy in the South, which, for the first time in twelve years, comes unfettered into a national canvass; and an era of confident hope to the Democratic party everywhere. The superannuated issues on which the Radical party have stood are passing out of politics, and the blundering imbecility and profligate extravagance of General Grant's administration need only to be faithfully exposed to turn the tide of public feeling strongly against it. In this, the great work of the coming year, The World will act no secondary part. Its location in the great focus of national commerce and intelligence, the freshness and abundance of its news, and its recognized position as the leading organ of the Democratic party, lay upon it a mission and apostleship which it will discharge with unflinching boldness, vigor, fidelity and zeal. It will be an constant counsel and communion with the tried leaders and sagacious statesmen of the party in all the States of the Union, cordially co-operating with them, and they with it, in building up the party in order and unity; healing differences, infusing confidence, inviting and encouraging new proselytes, and leading on the party as a bold and unbroken phalanx to the great triumph which awaits it in 1872.

The share allotted to The World in this combined and disciplined movement of the Democracy, in their onward march to victory, is the dissemination of political truth; a work which can be fruitful only in proportion to the extent of its circulation. We ask Democrats everywhere to aid in scattering the good seed broadcast over the whole land, during the period which is so important in reference to the coming harvest.

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